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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
NEGRO WELFARE LEAGUE.

February 5-1917.

The Executive Committee of the Negro Welfare League of New Jersey met at 249 Mulberry St. Monday February 5th at 4:30. Meeting called to order by Chairman, Rev. Mr. Stubblebine authorizing Secretary to file all minutes at office of Ex. Board. Motion made by Mr. MacDougall, seconded by Miss Robinson, carried.

Miss Pendleton was instructed to write a letter, Rev. Stubblebine signing same suggesting Sec. of Welfare League also file minutes at office.

Motion made by Mr. Faust, seconded by Miss Robinson that Miss Pendleton be authorized to sign contract for telephone in the name of the League.

Miss Pendleton stated that she was opposed to purchasing a second-hand typewriter. Suggested one costing \$81 which could be purchased. Mr. Jones suggested an L. C. Smith at \$50. After discussion it was decided to leave the matter in charge of Miss Pendleton.

Mr. Stubblebine brought before the Committee for consideration the question of affiliating with the National League. Mr. MacDougall suggested that Mr. Jones explain method of affiliation which Mr. Jones consented to do. In explaining this Mr. Jones stated that in affiliating with the National League, local branches would be required to elect three or more delegates, each of which would be required to pay from one to five dollars, individually or same paid by the organization; that the National body would send representatives to advise with local bodies in reference to conduct of affairs of the local League that same would get benefit of the Conference held under auspices of National body and the benefits derived from affiliation with leagues in other cities under the supervision of the National body. That organization was not required to have similar name though same would be preferable and more advantageous. The Chairman suggested that name not be changed within a year at least. The Chairman then asked for expression from each member of the Committee present. After same had been given Miss Pendleton moved and Mr. C. Brown seconded that steps be taken toward affiliating with the National League. Motion carried.

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Miss Pendleton, Mrs. Gregory seconded that three members be appointed as delegates to the National League. Motion carried. Rev. Mr. Brown suggested that the first year each delegate defray their own expenses. Chairman brought up the matter of establishing a Loaning Fund. Miss Pendleton suggested that cases not be considered, that it would come before Friendly Visitors' Committee. Miss Pendleton suggested that Loaning feature be taken up by churches, felt that were the impression spread abroad that organization was a loaning institution some might become detrimental.

Rev. Mr. Brown desired to know if relief feature of work be eliminated then what would organization be regarded as standing for. Mr. MacDougall felt that League do better work by helping others meet their own problems. After much discussion it was brought out that organization was more of an administrative body, to see that possibilities in any line such as might exist, might be used to the best advantage in serving various purposes. Relief being given only where immediate action was necessary and immediate assistance from other more direct sources were yet available. In other words the relief feature not being entirely eliminated but made more of a subordinate matter.

The Chairman stated that the League would try to get in touch with all plans for betterment. Mr. Jones read of work of Chicago Conference. Treasurer made his report which was received.

Chairman read a letter addressed to Dr. Craster, asking for assistance from Board of Health in the matter of inspecting housing conditions at 50 and 52 Clinton Street, and seeing that same were put in proper sanitary conditions. Motion made by Rev. Brown, seconded by Miss R. that same be sent. Motion carried.

Mr. C. M. Brown paid \$1 membership fee. Mr. Brown asked League might not try to use influence with parties able to do so in building tenement houses. Rev. Mr. Brown states that Episcopal Committee was appointed to wait on Board of Trade in reference to this matter. Mr. Bonfield related experience with real estate agent illustrating sentiment against building houses for colored people. Suggestion was made that League attempt to break down this sentiment. Mr. Faust spoke of Washington plan of Housing conditions. Chairman asked Mr. Faust to submit same to the Executive Secretary. Rev. Mr. Brown suggested that a write-up of the Washington plan be made for Newark, Evening News.

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Motioned by Miss Pendleton moved, Rev. Johns see that Rev. Mr. Brown ask Bishop Lines to use his influence with Mr. Scudder to secure a place for the write-up. Motion carried.

Motion by Rev. Johns seconded by Mr. Brown that letter from Schlesinger Real Estate Agents addressed to Mr. Bonfield be referred to Housing Committee. Motion carried. The following named persons were added to the Housing Committee, Rev. R. D. Brown, Mr. C. M. Brown and Mr. Faust of Orange. It was voted to hold the Mass Meeting March 1st.

Mr. Brown stated that Cooks' and Waiters' Union stood ready to lend further assistance for relief.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to meet at 4 P.M. February 19th at 249 Mulberry Street.

Rev. C. N. Stubblebine, Chr.

H. L. Brown

Sec. Secretary.